

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ernest A. Dion et al. Art Unit : Unknown
Serial No. : Examiner : Unknown
Filed : January 28, 2004
Title : MAKING CLOSED END TUBES FOR SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant submits the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

Under 35 USC §120, this application relies on the earlier filing date of application serial number 09/399,596, filed on September 20, 1999. The references cited on the attached form were submitted to and/or cited by the Office in the prior application and, therefore, are not provided in this application.

This statement is being filed with the application. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: JANUARY 28, 2004

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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified) Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 00167-352002	Application No.
	Applicant Ernest A. Dion et al.		
	Filing Date January 28, 2004	Group Art Unit	

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	378,976	03/1888	Ritchie			
	AB	389,087	09/1888	Kennedy			
	AC	1,903,630	04/1933	Minor			
	AD	2,026,133	12/1935	Mapes			
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	AJ	2,421,629	06/1947	Langos			
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Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AV	0 424 945	04/1997	Europe				
	AW	DE 3544753A	06/19/1987	Germany				
	AX	DE 3313273A	10/18/1984	Germany				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

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Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AY							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AZ	PCT International Search Report mailed 12/22/00
	AAA	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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